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M AKE no mistake! See that my head is on every package of

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### HE TWO **FATHERS**

The mother was a widow, an industrious woman, who worked late and early in order to support her child, a little girl between 4 and 5 years old, pretty as a fairy, full of fun, affectionate and coaxing as any happy child

On the opposite side of the landing of the fifth floor on which Mme. Etienne and her daughter Lillie lived was the door of the apartments inhabited by two brothers, cabinet makers by trade and bachelors either by choice or by chance, no one knew.

One of those days when the intense heat necessitates the door being left open in order to get a current of air, the prettiness of Lillie attracted the attention of the two brothers, who were already past their first youth and adored children in their quality of approaching old bachelorhood. From that a sort of intimacy sprung up between the widow and her neighbors. Little reciprocal services passed between them. They sometimes made a party of pleasure on the Sunday. So well did they get on indeed that one day the eldest of the two brothers said

"That child would want a father

badly." "That is my opinion also."

"Would you have any objection to my asking the mother to marry me?" "Why should I? In fact, I was thinking of doing the same myself. But since you have spoken first follow the notion up, but on the condition that you will let me see Lillie as often as I

like. I love that child as much as if she were my own." "Forsooth! You will live with us." The question agreed upon, the two brothers, dressed in their best, went to call on Mme. Etienne, whom, how ever, they found confined to bed. The

evening before she had run in order to take some work fack to the shop in time; on returning she had caught a chill, passed a feverish night and was not able to rise in the morning. She begged her neighbors to go for a doctor. It was no time to speak of Inflammation of the lungs carried

away the poor woman in ten days. Thanks to the two brothers, she had not to go to the hospital, and until the last she was able to see her little Lil-

lie, whom she earnestly recommended to them. They swore never to abandon The funeral over they took charge

said to one another at the same time: "If you wish, we will never get mar-

They went to live at Vincennes so that Lillie might have plenty of good air and take walks in the wood. They were very proud of their adopted daughter. When people stopped to look at them and asked in a casual way which was her father, they replied,

"Both of us." Lillie seemed to like one as well as the other and called them Uncle John

and Uncle James. When she grew a little older they put her to school-to a young ladies' school be it understood-taking her there every morning and calling for her in the evening. So Lillie grew up between these two affections without ever feeling the want of father or

She cost the brothers a great deal of money, did the little one, but bah, they went no longer to the cafe and worked a little more than formerly. These supplementary hours were devoted to the pleasure and tollet of ma-

When she was 15 years of age, she was the first to suggest that she should stay at home for the future, at which, of course, the brothers were enchanted. What a charming little housekeeper they had then and with what joyful tenderness she greeted their re-turn every evening! To say the spoiled child never abused their goodness would be saying too much, but at least she selzed every available opportunity

all of them that on the day the two men brought a cake and bouques to celebrate Lillie's birthday they ar-plaimed:

"Seventeen years old! Is it possi-But, yes, it was possible. And James

It was the younger who said one evening to the other:

and John thought so much about it

that it made them anxious and un-

"Do you know that Lillie is getting more beautiful every day?" "Eh! Yes, I know it well. And oth-

ers know it too. There must be a good many admirers prowling around here after her."

"And it is certain one of them will take her away from us before very

"Poor little thing!" "Yes, if she were to get a bad hus-

"Oh, I should kill any man who would treat her badly!" "There is only one way of escaping

"Ah!" said the elder brother, without making any addition to the ex-

"And then," continued the other, "think how sad it would be for us to part from Lillie - never again to see her trotting about the house, never to

hear her merry voice singing after we return from work of an evening." "I have been thinking of all that for

a long time, my dear John." "It must be put an end to." "And your plan?"

"It is very simple if it pleases you. I shall marry her before she gets fond of any one else." Zounds!

The elder brother stood up, almost threatening. "I also have thought of that plan. I

was often going to speak about it, but always held back."

"Because I wanted to marry Lillie The two brothers looked at one an other far from amiably. Then the

younger said: "This is the same as with the mothe formerly. Do you remember, James? I gave her up to you. It is your turn now to give Lillie up to me. You are three years older than L"

"Which nevertheless does not make you very young." A song was heard ascending from

from her daily shopping. "Listen," said John rapidly. "The to this must not be a cause of disunion between us. Let her choose which

one she likes best." "All right," said the other. "That is

Lillie entered, took the two men by he neck, kissed them and, drawing a chair between them, said: "I wish to speak to you seriously."

The face of the young girl looked quite joyous. "I wish to get married."

"But you have not found me a hus

"As a matter of fact we have. You

love us very much, say?"
"Like father and mother at once." "That is why we wish to propose to you to choose between us."

"Why choose?" "Which of us you will marry."
The young girl burst into a fit of

laughter so joyous, so prolonged, that the two brothers remained quite dumfounded. Then, brushing the tears from her eyelashes: "No nonsense, my uncles. I said I

wanted to speak to you seriously. You mustn't joke. I have a sweetheart." Neither replied. "Now, you must not be angry. I am so fond of him, and he is coming to-

morrow to see you." "Like that! All at once! And us, Lil-"You will always be my two fathers."-Translated From the French For Detroit News.

Athens and the Goat.

goat to be the proper milk producing men could move about again, and then animal, and he regards the cow in this only the mate could return to duty. connection about as we Americans do The captain had what seemed to be a the mare. The milkman takes his ani-mals with him, jangling their bells and and for ten days he suffered so acutely sneezing. "Gala!" he shouts, a quick, startling cry, with a "g" whose guttural quality is unattainable by adult learners and usually unperceived by them. When a customer comes to the door, he strips the desired quantity in-

to the proffered receptacle before her vigilant eyes, selecting one of the goats and paying no attention to the others, who understand the business as well as he does. Patiently they stand about, chewing the cud or resting on contigu-ous doorsteps. When their master moves on, they arise and follow, more

ering temptation to which the milkman is subjected affects him in Greece as in is bad weather coming on. We have America. In Greece it is taken for arrived at an opportune moment. granted that he cannot resist, and he is therefore obliged to take his animals are at your orders." with him. But even thus he is not above suspicion, for they tell of a rub ber water bag carried inside the coat and provided with a tube reaching to delaying it, but it was policy to take the palm of the hand. Each time the milkman closes his hand over the udder he presses the bag between his arm and his body .- Scribner's.

One small life in God's great plan, How futile it seems as the ages roll, Do what it may or strive how it can To alter the sweep of the infinite whole! A single stitch in an endless web.

But the pattern is rent where the stitch is lost Or maxred where the tangled threads have crosse and each life that fails of its true intent Mars the perfect plan that its Master meant.

## GENTLEMEN

below stairs. Lillie was coming back! Pernambuco, being a well found craft overboard before we had been out 24 child who has made our happiness up hours. Off the Bahamas the second mate and two men pulled away in the dingey to inspect some wreckage which seemed to prove the loss of a steamer. and as they were returning a small whale rose under the boat and smashed her to match wood, and then two sailors were drowned. This left us three men short, and we put in at the Windward islands to replace them. After much trouble we got two men, but as we were leaving port the captain was bitten on the cheek and the first mate "John and I were just speaking about on the hand by a flying insect somewhat resembling the so called "darning



edles" to be found in the United States. Within an hour they were suffering as much as if they had been

WOOLSON SPICE CO., TOLEDO, OHIO.

The obvious and well nigh overpow-

One stitch dropped as the weaver drove
His nimble shuttle to and fro,
in asd out, beneath, above,
Till the pattern seemed to bud and grow
As if the fairies had helping been—
One small stitch which could scarce be seen,
But the one stitch dropped pulled the next stitch

out,
And a weak place grew in the fabric stout,
And the perfect pattern was marred for aye
By the one small stitch that had dropped that

## CONVICTS

stung by an asp.

The captain's wife was aboard, and Your genuine Athenian believes the it was three or four days before the

orthless sailors and bad men, and they worked the bark an evil turn. One night as we lay becalmed, with the captain and mate still suffering from

the poisonous bites, they overpowered and bound the second mate, provision-ed and lowered a boat and induced four of the original crew to embark with them. We afterward came to know that they had been talking a great deal about a treasure buried on the Dutch Guiana coast, from which we were distant about 75 miles. We were thus left with only three able hands aboard, and he captain's wife had to take her trick at the wheel while we headed for Cayenne to get relief. We had crawled along to within 30 miles off the French penal port when the wind headed us, and we could do no better than drift off to the eastward and wait for a After about 30 hours of drifting the

wind changed in our favor, and one morning at sunrise we were making shift to get on our course again when we espied a raft with 12 men on it close at hand. With the naked eye one could make out that they were clothed in convict garb, and of course the deduction was that they had escaped from the coast. There were two rude sails on the raft, and the clumsy structure had had a fair breeze behind her for a day and a half. As the raft was not easily managed, we could have evaded it by putting up our helm. We were for doing this at once, all but the captain's wife. She knew they were convicts and desperate men and that once aboard of us we should be at their mercy, but she nevertheless insisted that we should pick them up. They were 50 miles off the coast, with the signs of a storm coming on, and she declared that it would be a cruel act to leave them to perish. I was of a mind to lock her up in her statercom and dodge the raft, but the other two men were against me, and ten minutes later the float was alongside and the convicts were climbing aboard. I expected nothing less than an immediate attack from them, for 12 tougher looking men I never set eyes on; but, to my surprise, they halted at the rail while their leader advanced, doffed his cap, with a scrape of his foot, and in passattle English inquired for the captain He was told of the captain's illness and of our being short handed, and he bowed and scraped again and said to

"Madam, have no fears. You probably know that we are escaped con victs from Cayenne, but no man will offer harm to any one aboard. We may be robbers and murderers, but we are also gentlemen in a way. There Most of us are sailors, and all of us When I looked into their vicious

faces, I could not help but suspect that

they had a game to play and were only them at their word. As soon as the captain and mate heard of the arrival of the gang they became almost panic stricken and advised this and that, and the wife was the only one who had the least confidence in the promises made. It was well that she had and that her advice to trust them was followed by all of us. We could not have kept them from coming aboard with our feeble crew, and to have shown our distrust afterward would have angered them. being given food, and before night we had cause to rejoice that they were with us. We got dirty weather, which lasted three days, and but for their aid the Nonesuch would have become a helpless wreck or gone to the bottom. We had to run off to the east during this spell, and it was only when the weather cleared that the leader of the They took hold with us at once after weather cleared that the leader of the convicts had a conference with the captain and his wife and asked that his gang be set ashore in Brazilian territo This was promised him, and I must say that I never worked with a more cheerful and willing crew aboard \$3,250. of any craft. Seven of the 12 had been convicted of murder, and all were desperate men, but they were as obedient as children and as good natured as you please. They were careful of their lan guage, respectful in their demeanor, and not once did I hear one of them grumble or complain. We ran into the Amazon and up that river for 40 miles to set them ashore. In his gratitude to them the captain gave them sailcloth 3-room cottage in rear, with stable, for two tents, a musket, a lot of clothes carriage house, etc. for \$7,500. Easy from the slop chest and all the provi- payments. sions we could spare. With cooking utensils, fishhooks and a few carpenters' tools they were fairly well rigged out for a life on the banks of the stream for half a year to come, and at parting there were as much handshakings and as many farewells as if a band of old friends was breaking up. Their escape from the colony was a desperate one and the authorities made an exhaustive search; but, so far as I have been able to learn, not one of the dozen has ever

Not Above His Business. Young Brodhead, scion of a wealthy family, cherished journalistic ambitions and, like a sensible youth, had resolved to begin at the beginning. He had applied for and obtained position as a reporter on a daily paper at a moderate salary, where he was

treated precisely like any other reporter, shirking no assignment that came in his way and putting on no airs on account of his wealth or social stand-He had not thought it worth while,

however, to acquaint the family servants with the nature of his daily occupations, and when a fellow reporter came to the house one day with a message from the city editor the flunky in attendance at the front door took him around the house and brought him up to the young man's room by a back

"Why didn't you show Mr. Craig up by way of the front hall?" demanded "He's only a reporter," whispered the

Imagine the dignified flunky's horror when his master responded in an audikey!"-Youth's Companion

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Blue grass farm of 215 acres; good improvement, water and fruits. adioining a thriving young city on N. & W. railroad; \$15 per acre.

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9-room house with bath, large lot stable and fruit, in southwest Roanoke, near railroad, \$1,375. Very easy pay-

An ideal farm of 410 acres, in a high state of cultivation, with beautiful 12 room brick residence, on nice elevation in a grove of large torest oaks, with every necesseary outbuilding, very large orchard, near the city. This is one of the most desirable farms in the Valley of Virginia, \$50.00 per acre.

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A beautiful farm of 170 acres on Roanoke river 106 acres of bottom land; upland all good. It room residence nicely painted and papered, fine spring water and plenty of timber; near the city. Price \$7,000 in very easy payments.

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per month. Lovely 10-room brick residence in best part of Roanoke City. 2 acres of ground, beautiful shade, quantity of finest r

Business property—Splendid 3 story brick building, 3 store rooms on first floor, 16 rooms second and third floors, renting for \$50 a month; \$3,500. This is a genuine bargain.

Good store house with full stock of goods, two small houses 9 acres of splendid land at village near Roanoke, Va. For sale at a bargain. Death of

214 acres beautiful land on street car line; new six-room dwelling; fine water; young fruit; is a bargain at \$1500.

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THE

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